

Name: _____ Date: _____

Polynomial Factoring solution (version 687)

1. The quadratic formula says if $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ then $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$. Use the quadratic formula to solve the following equation.

$$x^2 - 12x + 54 = 0$$

Simplify your answer(s) as much as possible.

Solution

$$x = \frac{-(-12) \pm \sqrt{(-12)^2 - 4(1)(54)}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-(-12) \pm \sqrt{144 - 216}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{12 \pm \sqrt{-72}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{12 \pm \sqrt{-36 \cdot 2}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{12 \pm 6\sqrt{2}i}{2}$$

$$x = 6 \pm 3\sqrt{2}i$$

Notice that i is NOT under the square-root radical symbol!!

2. Express the product of $9 - 4i$ and $5 + 7i$ in standard form $(a + bi)$.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} & (9 - 4i) \cdot (5 + 7i) \\ & 45 + 63i - 20i - 28i^2 \\ & 45 + 63i - 20i + 28 \\ & 45 + 28 + 63i - 20i \\ & 73 + 43i \end{aligned}$$

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3. Write function $f(x) = x^3 + 6x^2 - x - 6$ in factored form. I'll give you a hint: one factor is $(x - 1)$.

Solution

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} & 1 & 6 & -1 & -6 \\ 1 & & 1 & 7 & 6 \\ \hline & 1 & 7 & 6 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$f(x) = (x - 1)(x^2 + 7x + 6)$$

$$f(x) = (x - 1)(x + 6)(x + 1)$$

4. Polynomial p is defined below in factored form.

$$p(x) = -(x + 7)^2 \cdot (x + 4) \cdot (x + 1)$$

Sketch a graph of polynomial $y = p(x)$.

